

Please amend the claims as follows:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original): A composition comprising epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG) and lactoferrin.

2. (Currently amended): A composition as in claim 1 further comprising ~~additionally~~ vitamin C, vitamin E and a carotenoid.

3. (Currently amended) A composition according to claim 1 ~~as in any one of claims 1 or 2~~ comprising epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG) in a concentration of from about 0.001 to about 3 % (w/w) and lactoferrin in a concentration of from about 0.002 to 3 % (w/w).

4. (Currently amended): A composition according to claim 2 ~~as in any one of claims 1 or 2~~ comprising vitamin C in a concentration of from about 30 to about 6000 mg/kg, vitamin E in a concentration of from about 20 to about 450 IU/kg and a carotenoid in a concentration of from about 2 to about 315 mg/kg, based on the total weight of the composition.

5. (Currently amended): A composition according to claim 1 ~~[[as in any of claims 1 to 4]]~~ which is a pet food, particularly for dogs or cats.

6. (Currently amended): A method of making ~~The use of a composition of any one of claims 1 to 5 in the manufacture of~~ a pet food, particularly for dogs or cats, for preventing or treating plaque, gingivitis, periodontal disease and oral malodor (halitosis) in pets, and for enhancing the antioxidative capacity in the whole organism comprising combining EGCG and lactoferrin with a feed, a feedstuff, a premix for producing a feed or feedstuff, or a component of a pet food.

7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently amended): A method according to claim 6 comprising combining ~~The use as in claim 6 of a combination of~~ EGCG, lactoferrin, vitamin C,

vitamin E and a carotenoid with a feed, a feedstuff, a premix for producing a feed or feedstuff, or a component of a pet food.

9. (Currently amended): A method of making ~~The use of a combination of EGCG, vitamin C, vitamin E and a carotenoid in the manufacture of a pet food, particularly for dogs or cats, for preventing or treating plaque, gingivitis, periodontal disease and oral malodor (halitosis) in pets, and for enhancing the antioxidative capacity in the whole organism~~ comprising combining EGCG, vitamin C, vitamin E, and a carotenoid with a feed, a feedstuff, a premix for producing a feed or feedstuff, or a component of a pet food.

10. (Currently amended): A method of ~~The use of a composition or a pet food of any one of claims 1 to 5 for preventing or treating plaque, gingivitis, periodontal disease and oral malodor (halitosis) in pets, particularly dogs or cats, and for enhancing the antioxidative capacity in the whole organism of the animal~~ comprising administering an effective amount of a composition according to claim 1.

11. (Currently amended): A method of ~~The use of a combination of EGCG, vitamin C, vitamin E and a carotenoid for preventing or treating plaque, gingivitis, periodontal disease and oral malodor (halitosis) in pets, particularly dogs or cats, and for enhancing the antioxidative capacity in the whole organism of the animal~~ comprising administering an effective amount of a composition comprising EGCG, vitamin C, vitamin E, and a carotenoid.

12. (New): A method according to claim 6, wherein the pet food contains EGCG in a concentration of from about 0.001 to about 3 %(w/w) and lactoferrin in a concentration of from about 0.002 to 3 % (w/w).

13. (New): A method according to claim 8, wherein the pet food contains EGCG in a concentration of from about 0.001 to about 3 %(w/w), lactoferrin in a concentration of from about 0.002 to 3 % (w/w), vitamin C in a concentration of from about 30 to about 6000 mg/kg, vitamin E in a concentration of from about 20 to about

450 IU/kg, and a carotenoid in a concentration of from about 2 to about 315 mg/kg, based on the total weight of the pet food.

14. (New): A method of preventing or treating plaque, gingivitis, periodontal disease and oral malodor (halitosis) in pets, particularly dogs or cats, and for enhancing the antioxidative capacity in the whole organism of the animal comprising administering an effective amount of a composition according to claim 2.

15. (New): A method of preventing or treating plaque, gingivitis, periodontal disease and oral malodor (halitosis) in pets, particularly dogs or cats, and for enhancing the antioxidative capacity in the whole organism of the animal comprising administering an effective amount of a composition according to claim 3.

16. (New): A method of preventing or treating plaque, gingivitis, periodontal disease and oral malodor (halitosis) in pets, particularly dogs or cats, and for enhancing the antioxidative capacity in the whole organism of the animal comprising administering an effective amount of a composition according to claim 4.